



STATE OF INDIANA
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For Immediate Release

Excise Officers Arrest 188 on 231 Charges this Weekend in Bloomington

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (Sept. 16) – Indiana State Excise Police officers arrested 188 people on 231 charges while patrolling around Indiana University – Bloomington this weekend.

On Thursday, excise officers arrested 18 people on 23 charges, including nine for illegal possession or consumption of alcohol, four for possession of false ID and two for furnishing alcohol to a minor.

On Friday, excise police officers arrested 50 people on 67 charges, including 40 for illegal possession or consumption of alcohol, five for furnishing alcohol to a minor, three for possession of false ID, two for public intoxication, one for resisting arrest and 15 other charges.

On Saturday, excise police officers arrested 110 people on 129 charges during I.U.'s game against Ball State. Officers arrested 106 minors for illegal consumption or possession of alcohol – including eight juveniles less than 18 years old (youngest arrested was 15 years old). Seven minors with high breath-alcohol concentrations were arrested for public intoxication. Three minors were cited for possession of false ID, one juvenile was cited for possession of tobacco and two adults were charged with furnishing alcohol to a minor. Excise officers also arrested two adults on drug-related charges, including one man who was found with nine marijuana cigarettes. Two other adults were arrested for resisting law enforcement. Six other people were cited for a variety of charges.

Yesterday's tailgating arrests are up from 34 minors arrested during IU's first home football game against Indiana State on Sept. 1. Never before have excise officers arrested 110 people on 129 charges during tailgating at any Indiana college or university.

Excise officers working after the game arrested an additional 10 people on 12 charges, including eight minors for illegal possession or consumption of alcohol, two for possession of false ID and one adult for furnishing alcohol to a minor.

Indiana State Excise Police officers, who are the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol & Tobacco Commission, were working in Bloomington this weekend as part of the Intensified College Enforcement, or ICE, program launched last semester. The ICE initiative aims to reduce underage access to and use of alcohol at six college campuses: Ball State, Butler, Indiana, Indiana State, Notre Dame and Purdue.

"Regulating the distribution of alcohol is crucial to public safety," Superintendent Matt Strittmatter said. "Our agency will continue to ensure the access of alcohol to minors is limited."

While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related violations.

All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.